D. Harbaugh

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

THIRD ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Kansas,

AND

THE ADJACENT STATES,

CONVENED AT LAWRENCE, KANSAS,

October 5th to 10th, 1870.

TOPEKA, KANSAS.
STATE RECORD STEAM PRINTING HOUSE.
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At the close of another Synodical Year of Missionary toil and anxiety, protected and guided by the kind hand of our Heavenly Father, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Kansas and adjacent States, convened in the city of Lawrence, Kansas, on Wednesday evening, October 5, 1870.

The opening sermon was preached by the President, Rev. A. J. Hesson, from Acts, xii. chap., 24th verse.

(The second Convention was a Semi-annual Convention, which would make this the fourth Convention of Synod since its organization.)

FIRST SESSION.

Thursday, *October* 6, 9 A. M.

After spending a half hour in devotional exercises, Synod was opened with singing, and prayer by the President. The roll of the clerical members was called, and the absentees noted.

The Lay-delegates were received upon the formal presentation of their credentials, and constituted members of this Convention.

Revs. David Harbaugh, of the Synod of Northern Illinois; Thomas W. Sargent, of the Synod of Southern Illinois;

Henry Heigerd, of the Synod of Northern Indiana; Wm. H. Steck, of the East Pennsylvania Synod; J. B. Corbett, of the Northern Illinois Synod; W. E. Crebs, of the Pittsburg Synod; and licentiates, N. G. Haags, of the Central Synod of Illinois, and C. J. Sheleen, of the Synod of Northern Illinois, having presented letters of honorable dismission from their respective Synods were,

On motion, received as members of this Synodical body.

The following is a list of all the clerical members composing this Synod at its present session, with their post-offices and names of their Lay-delegates:

No.	Clergymen.	Post-Office.	Lay-delegates.
1.	Rev. John G. Ellinger,*a*	Ottawa, Kas.	No delegate.
2.	" Thos. W. Sargent,	Leavenworth	"
3.	" Charles Martin	St. Joseph, Mo.	"
4.	" David Earhart	Pardee	"
5.	" David Harbaugh	Waterville	"
6.	" J. B. McAfee	Topeka	"
7.	" F. R. Scherer	Waterville	"
8.	" S. P. Harrington	Grasshopper Falls,	G. W. Crotzer.
9.	" Levi Rickseckera	Ottawa	No delegate.
10.	" J. G. Groenmiller	Rockport, Mo.	F. Heckendorf.
11.	" C. F. W. Treptow,*d*	Lawrence	Mr. Alaback.
12.	" Henry Heigerd.*a* *	Effingham	No delegate.
13.	" W. E. Crebs.*	Abilene	"
14.	" Wm. H. Steck.*	Kansas City Mo.	C. R. Colman.
15.	" A. J. Hesson	Topeka, Kas.	No delegate.
16.	" A. W. Wagenhals.*a*	Atchison	"
17.	" E. J. Keplinger.*a*	Grasshopper Falls.	"
18.	" H. B. Belmer	Lawrence	L. Eberhart.
19.	" M. G. Boyer	Monrovia	John Helwig.
20.	" J. B. Corbett.*a* *	St. Louis, Mo.	No delegate.
21.	" V. G. Haag.†	Girard Crawford Co. Kas.	"
22.	" C. J. Sheleen.†	Topeka, Kas.	A. Errikson.
	Licentiates.		
23.	" A. G. Nordengren‡	" "	No delegate.
24.	" C. Hawkinson.‡	Randolph	"
25.	" Albert G. R. Buetow.‡	Fontenelle, Neb.	"

Explanations. *a* Absent. *d* Deposed. * Admitted this session. † Ordained this session. ‡ Licensed this session.

On motion, the English Evangelical Lutheran Church of St. Louis, was admitted as an integral part of the Synod upon the formal application of its pastor and members.

The President then read his report.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

DEAR BRETHREN. The Great Head of the Church has been with us another year. In the good providence of God, we are permitted to assemble, in our third annual Synodical Convention. It becomes us to render devout thanksgiving to Almighty God, for His great goodness and tender mercies. He has spared our lives, and permitted us again, to greet each other, in the flesh. Our God and Savior has not ceased to be gracious unto us.

In compliance with the requirements of our constitution, I now submit to you a report of my official acts during the year.

CLERICAL CERTIFICATES.

November 1, 1869, Rev. H. Heigerd sent me a certificate of honorable dismission from the synod of Northern Indiana, asking to become a member of this body. I informed him that I would instruct the Secretary of synod to enter his name on the roll.

July 6, 1870, I received a letter of Rev. W. E. Crebs containing a certificate of honorable dismission from the Pittsburg Synod, asking to become a member of this Synod. The Secretary was instructed to place his name on the roll.

August 23, 1870, Rev. V. G. Haag, a licentiate, of Northern Illinois Synod, sent me a certificate of honorable dismission from that body, asking to be received into connection with this Synod. He desires to receive ordination at the hands of this body. For this purpose I recommend him to Synod.

Also, in the month of August, I received a letter from the President of the Northern Illinois Synod containing a certificate of the honorable dismission of Rev. C. J. Sheleen, a licentiate of that body. This brother also asks for ordination, for which I most heartily recommend him.

AD INTERIM LICENSE,

By the power invested in the President, and in accordance with the rules laid down in the constitution, *Ad Interim License* was granted to A. G. R. Buetow of Fotnenelle, Neb., C. A. Wennerschold of Clay Centre, Ks., Charles Hawkinson, Randolph, Ks. to preach the gospel and administer the holy sacraments. The renewal of their license will now be at the disposal of Synod.

Installation.

January 11, 1870, Received a letter from Rev. W. H. Steck of Kansas City, asking to be installed as the pastor of the Mission church in Kansas City, to which he had been regularly called and appointed. This was attended to February 13, by Rev. C. Martin of St. Joseph, Mo. and Rev. A. J. Hesson of Topeka, Kansas.

Rev. A. G. R. Buetow of Fontenelle, desired me to appoint a committee to install him in his new charge. I complied with his request, by appointing Rev. J. G. Greonmiller and Rev. J. F. Kuhlman. They performed the duty assigned them.

New Charges.

A new house of worship was built and consecrated to the service of God, in the pastoral charge of Rev. J. G. Greonmiller. The church here, (in Lawrence) has commenced a temple of worship, which will soon be completed and consecrated to the service of the Triune God. It will be an ornament to the city, and a praise to the liberality and energy of the members who built it. I am glad to learn, that the pastor and people of the Grasshopper Falls congregation are taking steps to erect a new church edifice; the old house of worship being too small to accommodate the increasing membership and congregation. A Swedish church has been organized at Randolph, Kansas, with seventy-five members, served by Rev. Charles Hawkinson. The congregation will make application to be received into connection with this Synod. Also a Swedish church has been organized at Topeka, Kansas, by Rev. C. J. Sheleen, which desires to be received into this body. Rev. V. G. Haag, has organized two congregations in Crawford Co., Kansas, which he serves as pastor. He feels greatly encouraged in his work. Rev. M. G. Boyer has organized a new congregation within the bounds of his charge in the town of Effingham. A new charge is being formed at Abilene, in which Rev. W. E. Crebs is invited to labor.

Vacant Charges.

The Tipton charge in Missouri has been made vacant by the resignation of Rev. E. J. Keplinger. He has not notified me of his whereabouts, but I have learned that he has located at Grasshopper Falls, engaged in secular business. It is much to be regretted that he was compelled to relinquish the ministry, even for a time; it is to be hoped that he may soon be at his Master's work. The church in Topeka is made vacant by the resignation of Rev. A. J. Hesson.

MISCELLANEOUS.

During the year I received several communications from the Waterville charge, making mention of dissatisfaction existing there, between the pastor and people. I would advise the Synod to make inquiry with regard to the state of things in that charge.

Complying with a resolution passed by this Synod at its last convention, I visited Emporia to organize a church. I found about 25 members there, but thought it not advisable to organize, because the Missionary Board could neither furnish pecuniary aid, nor a minister to take charge of the field.

In accordance with a resolution passed by Synod, instructing the president to open a correspondence with Rev. C. Anderson, of Galesburg, Ill., with a view of supplying the Scandinavians of this State, with the preaching of the gospel. The correspondence was opened, and it was thought necessary that Rev. Mr. Anderson visit the field, in order to locate the pastors that he could furnish. Your President advanced him $25, to assist in bearing his expenses. The applications before Synod of the Swedish ministers and congregations for membership in this body are the results of Bro. Anderson's visit.

I would take occasion in this report to recommend to the care and attention of the Synod the Scandinavian population existing within its bounds. I rejoice to learn of the growing tendency among our Swedish brethren to seek fellowship with our Synod and ecclesiastical relations with it.

IN CONCLUSION.

During my term of office I have visited various portions of the State, seeing after the interests of the church; and wherever I went, I was reminded of the words of the Master, "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest."

Further, my dear brethren, I cannot help but deeply and sadly regret, that so many able and acceptable ministers of the gospel within the bounds of our Synod, are satisfied to remain idle, while around them, the rich harvest of the Lord is perishing for the want of laborers.

Let me exhort you all, my brethren, to remember your high commission. "Go, preach the gospel to every creature," and may the Lord always help you to feel as did Paul, "Woe is unto me if I preach not the gospel."

May God bless our Synod, and preside over our deliberations; and grant us the aid of the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth.

Respectfully submitted, A. J. HESSON.

On motion, the report of the President was laid on the table for future consideration and action.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The election of officers being in order, Rev. M. G. Boyer and Bro. G. W. Crotzer were appointed tellers.

The following result was reported:

President. Rev. A. J. Hesson, of Topeka.

Secretary Rev. S. P. Harrington, of Grasshopper Falls.

Treasurer.. Rev. J. G. Groenmiller of Rockport, Mo.

The papers and documents intended for Synod, were called for and laid on the table for distribution among the various committees.

On motion, Synod adjourned to meet at two o'clock P. M.

Prayer by Rev. C. Martin.

SECOND SESSION.

2 o'clock, P. M.

Synod opened with prayer by Rev. D. M. Moore, of the Presbyterian church.

The minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

Rev. D. M. Moore being present, was introduced and admitted as an advisory member of this body.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

The papers and documents belonging to, and intended for the action of Synod were then distributed among the following committe's.

Committee No 1.—On the minute of the former convention; Revs. H. B. Belmer, F. R. Scherer and Bro. G. W. Crotzer.

Committee No 2.—Revs. M. G. Boyer, J. G. Groenmiller and Bro. John Helwig.

Committee No 3.—Bros. D. Earhart, Wm. H. Steck and H. B. Belmer.

Committee No 4.—Rev's C. Martin, H. B. Belmer, M. G. Boyer.

Committee No 5.—Rev's J. G. Groenmiller, C. F. W. Treptow, and Bro. F. Heckindorf.

Committee No 6.—Rev's Thos. W. Sargent, Wm. H. Steck, and Bro. Lewis Eberhart.

Committee No 7.—Rev's. M. G. Boyer, C. Martin, and Bro. Lewis Eberhart.

Committee No 8.—Rev's. Wm. H. Steck, Thos. W. Sargent and Bro. John Helwig.

Committee No 9.—Rev's. D. Harbaugh, F. R. Scherer and Bro. G. W. Crotzer.

Committee No 10.—Rev's. C. Martin, H. B. Belmer, and Wm. H. Steck.

Committee No 11.—On leave of absence.—Rev's. H. B. Belmer, S. P. Harrington and Bro. L. Eberhart.

On motion, Friday, 10 o'clock A. M. was fixed as the time for hearing the parochial reports.

The treasurer then read his report of moneys received and disbursed by him during the synodical year.

On motion, the report was referred to an auditing committee of three.

Committee.—Revs. H. B. Belmer, F. R. Scherer and Bro. G. W. Crotzer.

REPORTS OF DELEGATES TO SISTER SYNODS.

The reports of the delegates to Sister Synods being in order,

Rev. C. Martin, the delegate to the Synod of Northern Illinois, reported that he did not visit or write to said Synod for want of a knowledge of the time of its meeting, but believed it to be faithful in the Master's cause.

Rev. H. B. Belmer, delegate to the Central Synod of Illinois, reported that he did not visit or write to said Synod, but has reason to believe that its members are faithful to the trust committed to them.

Rev. J. G. Greonmiller delegate to the Synod of Iowa, reported, that he had written a fraternal letter to said Synod, in answer to which the President of this Synod has received a fraternal reply, and also a copy of its minutes.

VACANT CHURCHES.

The subject of vacant churches was taken up.

The St. Pauls German, Lutheran church, (of Lawrence) was reported vacant, by one of its members. There being matters requiring investigation between this church and its pastor.

On motion, a committee of investigation was appointed consisting of the following brethren.

Rev. J. G. Groenmiller, J. B. McAfee and Bro. G. W. Crotzer, Said committee to report at this meeting of Synod.

Tipton, Mo., Topeka, Atchison, and Osawkee, Kansas, were reported vacant.

The attention of Synod was also called to Oregon, Holt Co., Mo. and Muscotah, Atchison Co., Kansas, as being places which should be supplied with the preaching of the gospel by the Lutheran church.

On motion, Rev. C. Martin, was requested to take care of our interests at Oregon, and that he preach the gospel to the people at that place as often as possible.

On motion, Revs. D. Earhart, S. P. Harrington, M. G. Boyer and A. W. Wagenhals, were appointed a committee to whom the interests of our church, at Muscotah, Kansas, were referred. Rev. E. J. Keplinger, was, on motion, recommended to supply the St. John's churchat Osawkee with preaching, provided they pay him a reasonable compensation for his services, and that the Secretary notify the members of said church of this action.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE NO 7.

Your committee respectfully reports, that the papers placed in their hands are letters,

1st. From Rev. A. W. Wagenhals, asking Synod to excuse him from attending the convention on account of sickness in his family.

Resolved, That he be excused and that we heartily sympathize with him in his affliction.

2nd. Is one from Rev. H. Heigerd, regretting his inability to meet with us at this convention on account of circumstances which make it almost impossible.

Resolved, That he be excused.

M. G. BOYER,
C. MARTIN,
D. EARHART.

Adopted.

COMMITTEE ON THE TREASURER'S REPORT.

The committee on the Treasurer's report, respectfully offer the following:

Total moneys received according to report	$298.85
Total moneys paid out,	276.90
Balance on hand,	$21.95

Proper vouchers for only one of the amounts disbursed accompany the report; but your committee recommend the adoption of the report as correct.

H. B. BELMER,
F. R. SCHERER,
G. W. CROTZER.

Adopted.

Committee No 1, on the Minutes of the last convention of Synod, reported as follows:

Your committee would report that they have examined the minutes of the last session of Synod, and find the following points to be noticed.

1. The report of the President is omitted from the printed minutes. Is this to be the rule?

2. The Treasurer was instructed to purchase a record book for synod. Has it been done?

3. The President of Synod was instructed to correspond with Rev. C. Anderson, of Galesburg, Ill., with regard to supplying the Scandinavians within our bounds with pastors.

4. Rev. D. S. Altman was received as a member of Synod on condition that he deposit his honorable dismission from the Iowa Synod. Has he done so?

5. Has the President organized at Emporia?

Respectfully submitted,

H. B. BELMER,
F. R. SCHERER,
D. J. EBERHART.

The report was adopted in the order of its items.

Item 1st, Answer. It is not.

A note was appended to the protocol to the effect that the committee having the Presidents report under consideration did not pass the report into the hands of the Secretary.

Item 2nd. Answer. Yes.

Item 3d. Answer. It has.

Item 4th. Answer. He has not.

Item 5th. Answer. He has not.

The report was adopted as a whole.

The following preamble and resolutions was, on motion, adopted:

Whereas.—Bro. Kuhlman of Fontenelle, Nebraska, refunded $5 to the Treasurer of Synod, paid by Bro. McAfee for the purpose of procuring a book in which to record a sketch of the history of the Lutheran Church in Kansas and Nebraska, and said book not having been purchased. On motion it was

Resolved, That the said $5 be paid into the Synodical treasury.

On motion,

Resolved, That the sessions of this Synod shall open at 9 o'clock and close at 11½ A. M. and open at 1½ and close at 4½ P. M. Adjourned. Prayer by Rev. F. R. Scherer.

THIRD SESSION.

9 *o'clock* A. M. *Oct.* 7, 1870.

Synod was opened with prayer by Rev. Wm. H. Steck. The minutes of the former session were read, corrected and approved.

The certificate of honorable dismission from the Pittsburg Synod of W. E. Crebs, was read by the President and his name was placed on the roll of this Synod.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE NO 3.

Your committee would respectfully report, that one of the papers placed in their hands is the Constitution of a Swedish Evangelical Lutheran church in Topeka, Kansas, written in the Swedish language.

The 2d paper is a letter for Synod from the Topeka Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church, informing us that the constitution is in accordance with the constitution of *our Synod* and that of the *General Synod*, and asks to be received as an integral part of this Synod and the same is signed by the pastor and officers of said church.

The 3d paper is from the Church Council of the Rockport Evangelical Lutheran church, in charge of Rev. J. G. Groenmiller, in which they inform us that they have adopted the Discipline of the General Synod as the constitution of their church, and request us to receive them as an integral part of our Synod. The following was offered.

Resolved, That both the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran church of Topeka, and the Rockport Evangelical Lutheran church be received as integral parts of this synod.

Respectfully submitted,

D. EARHART
WM. H. STECK,
H. B. BELMER,

Adopted.

COMMITTEE NO 9 REPORTED.

The papers placed in the hands of your committee are:

1st. A letter from Rev. A. M. Geiger, who was appointed delegate to this synod by the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Iowa.

2d. Is a letter from Rev. C. Anderson, who was appointed delegate to this body by the Synod of Northern Illinois.

We respectfully reciprocate the friendly feeling of their Synods and regret that the delegates above named could not be present and recommend the appointment of delegates to their Synods.

Respectfully submitted,

D. HARBAUGH,
F. R. SCHERER,
G. W. CROTZER,

Adopted.

PAROCHIAL REPORTS.

Parochial reports being now the order of business, the roll of the clerical members was called, many of whom responded

in interesting verbal statements in regard to their respective fields of labor, and the following brethren handed in their written statements relative to their work.

Rev. J. G. Groenmiller, says:

Through the infinite and unmerited mercy of our Heavenly Father we are able to report that our health has been uninterrupted in the past synodical year, so that we did not miss one Sabbath of labor; and examining the spiritual condition of our people, we cannot help expressing the wish and prayer that it might be better—we discover indeed, much room for improvement, both moral and religious. Yet, looking on the other side, we have also reason to be thankful to the Great Head of the Church that our labors were not in vain in the Lord.

With the aid and help of God, we erected in Rockport a comfortable little church which was finished and dedicated to the service of the Triune God, nearly free of debt, on the 31st day of October, 1869. Rev. Dr. Martin, and Rev. E. Huber were present and assisted in the solemnities. Our Mackelroy congregation, in Richardson county, Nebraska, has purposed to build a church the next season. The attendance at preaching and other means of grace is respectably good.

Notwithstanding the hard toil demanded in this western field, we are still encouraged to wield the sword of the Spirit and battle for the truth and victory, under the banner of our glorious Leader.

Rev. A. G. R. Buetow, of Fontenelle, Nebraska, writes but a few words, but very expressive, "*Prospects very hopeful.*" *See Statistical Table.*

Rev. F. M. Ellis, of the Baptist church, being present, was introduced, and on motion, was admitted as an advisory member of this body.

COMMITTEE NO 7 REPORT.

The report was laid on the table and the committee discharged.

Adjourned. Prayer by Rev. M. G. Boyer.

FOURTH SESSION.

1½ *o'clock*, P. M.

Synod was opened with prayer by Rev. M. G. Boyer. The minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

On motion, synod took a short recess for the purpose of holding a short session of the Ministerium.

The business of synod being resumed:

COMMITTEE NO. 10, REPORTED.

Your committee would respectfully report:

The document placed in their hands is—A letter from Rev. Francis Springer, President of the Board of Commissioners of the contemplated college, located at Carthage, Illinois, addressed to Rev. J. B. McAfee, but through him requesting this synod to appoint three commissioners, to co-operate with the commissioners appointed by the three Synods of Illinois, and the Iowa Synod, in the management of the college.

The committee, in view of the expressed sentiments and action of this Synod one year ago, is doubtful whether the Kansas Synod is prepared to accede to the request made in said letter, *i. e.* to appoint three commissioners, and, therefore, are not prepared to recommend any action.

Resolved, That the Synods engaged in the establishment of a college at Carthage, under Lutheran patronage, have our warmest sympathies and sincere prayers.

C. MARTIN.
H. B. BELMER,
WM. H. STECK.

On motion, The report was ordered to be placed on record.

COMMITTEE NO 11 REPORTED.

Your committee would respectfully report. That the paper placed in their hands is a letter from the Pastor, Elders and Deacons, of the Tipton, Iowa, Evangelical Lutheran Pastorate, to the Kansas Evangelical Lutheran Synod, Commending Bro. D. S. Altman in the most cordial manner, to the favorable notice of this Synod, and informing us of their efforts with the Iowa Synod, to secure for him an honorable dismission from the same.

Notwithstanding, these and other favorable testimonials of Bro. Altman, deemed entirely reliable, he has not been able to secure an honorable dismission from the Iowa Synod, after repeated efforts to secure the same.

Whereas, We believe Bro. Altman to be an efficient and useful minister, without any charge effecting his moral character, and yet a deliverance in the Iowa Synod standing in the way of an honorable dismission, therefore,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed by this Synod to act as a *mediator* between Bro. Altman and the Iowa Synod, and if possible secure an honorable dismission for him.

Respectfully submitted,

D. EARHART,
CHAS. LADWIG.

Adopted.

On motion, the President, Rev. A. J. Hesson, was appointed the committee suggested in the above report.

COMMITTEE NO. 6 REPORTED.

The papers placed in our hands are:

1st. A letter from Rev. E. J. Keplinger, stating his inability to attend the meeting of this synod, owing to severe affliction in his family, and therefore asks to be excused.

2d. A letter from Rev. John G. Ellinger stating his inability to attend the present convention of Synod: owing to severe bodily affliction, he, also, asks to be excused from attending this session of Synod.

We therefore recommend the sympathies of this body to these brethren. Rev. J. G. Ellinger has also sent $5.00 to the Synod to to be distributed as follows, to wit, $3 to Home Missions, and $2.00 for synodical purposes.

T. W. SARGENT,
WM. H. STECK,
D. EARHART.

Adopted.

COMMITTEE NO 2 REPORTED.

The committee to whom the President's report was referred, report the following, as covering all the points that in their opinion, require the action of Synod, as the ordination of Bros. Haag and Sheleen, the licensure of Bros. Buetow, and Wennerschold, and Hawkinson, and the application of the Swedish congregations at Topeka and Randolph, for admission into this Synod, have been referred to special committees.

Resolved, 1st. That the vacant congregations of the Tipton charge, Missouri, and of Topeka, be duly considered by the Synod and if possible, provision be made for their supply, until permanent pastors can be secured.

Resolved, 2d. That this Synod take under its special care the Scandinavian population within its bounds.

Respectfully submitted,
M. G. BOYER,
J. G. GROENMILLER,
JOHN HELWIG.

The report was considered item by item.

Adopted as a whole.

The certificate of Bro. Alabach as delegate from the St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran church of Lawrence was read.

On motion, Bro. Alabach was received as a lay-delegate to this body.

COMMITTEE NO. 8 REPORTED.

The papers placed in the hands of your committee are, the *first* annual statement of the Board of Home Missions of the General Synod, which contains an account of their labors, and the results of their operations during the past year, state of the treasury, &c.

The Board closed their annual statement, by presenting to the church, the pressing need of funds for carrying on successfully, the enterprises they have already begun.

Secondly.—A letter from Bro. M. Officer, secretary of the Board of Home Missions, regretting that he could not be with us at this meeting of our Synod, and in which he calls the attention of this body to some matters that concern our Synod in its relation to the Home Missionary Society of the General Synod. He speaks hopefully of the missions now on the funds, both East and West, and expresses his confidence in the Missionaries now in charge, and on behalf of the Missionary Board, requests that this Synod appoint an advisory board or committee, with whom they may confer with regard to Home Mission interests in our bounds, and that said committee inform him, as soon as practicable, what amount of funds we can furnish immediately, or during the year, and what new fields within our bounds we deem most important and promising.

Your committee recommend that the above request be attended to at the proper time and place.

WM. H. STECK,
T. W. SARGENT,
JOHN HELWIG.

Adopted.

Committee appointed on Rev. C. F. W. Treptow's application for an honorable dismission from this Synod, reported the following.

The committee on the application of Rev. C. F. W. Treptow's application for an honorable dismission, would report that he gives *nine* reasons why he wishes to sever his connection with this Synod.

These reasons are such, in part, as Synod has nothing to do with, and, in part, they charge some members of Synod with misrepresenting, and failing to fulfil a duty laid on them.

The committee recommend that no honorable dismission be granted to Rev. C. F. W. Treptow, until he settle other matters of difference between him and his congregation, and until these grave charges against members of Synod, and the Home Missionary Society, are definitely proven or withdrawn.

H. B. BELMER,
M. G. BOYER,
G. W. CROTZER.

This report was, on motion, *unanimously* adopted.

The constitution and other papers being read and considered, the Evangelical Lutheran Congregation at Randolph, Kansas, was, on motion, admitted as an integral part of this Synod.

On motion, that $25 loaned by Rev. A. J. Hesson, to Rev. C. Anderson to pay his expenses, while visiting our State, looking after the interests of the Scandinavians, was ordered to be refunded from the Home Mission fund.

The election of delegates to the General Synod was made the order of business at the opening of the session on Saturday morning.

Adjourned.

Prayer by Rev. J. B. McAfee.

FIFTH SESSION.

October 8, 9 *o'clock* A. M.

Synod opened with prayer by Rev. V. G. Haag. The minutes of the former session were read and approved. The election of delegates to the General Synod, to meet at Dayton, Ohio, in May, 1871, being in order, Synod proceeded to an election by appointing Rev. M. G. Boyer and Bro. L. Eberhart, tellers; which resulted in the election of the following brethren:

CLERICAL.

Principals.	Alternates.
Rev. A. J. Hesson	Rev. M. G. Boyer,
Rev. H. B. Belmer	Rev. D. Earhart,
Rev. S. P. Harrington	Rev. Wm. H. Steck.

LAY-DELEGATES.

Principals.	Alternates.
Bro. C. R. Colman	Bro. C. Ladwig,
Bro. J. G. Schmucker	Bro. A. Erikson,
Bro. G. W. Crotzer	Bro. John Helwig.

On motion, a committee was appointed to divide the Synod into Conference Districts. Committee—Revs. C. Martin, H. B. Belmer and V. G. Haag.

As Delegates to other Synods, the following were elected:

To the Iowa Synod, Rev. T. W. Sargent.
To the Northern Illinois Synod, Rev. D. Harbaugh.
To the Southern Illinois Synod, Rev. W. H. Steck.
To the Central Illinois Synod, Rev. J. B. McAfee.

Rev. Albert G. R. Buetow, of Fontenelle, Nebraska, having presented satisfactory reasons by letter to this body, was on motion excused for non-attendance at this meeting.

ELECTION FOR TIME AND PLACE FOR THE NEXT MEETING.

The election for the time and place for the next meeting of Synod being now in order, Bros. M. G. Boyer and F. R. Scherer were appointed tellers.

The *time* chosen, is the last Wednesday before the full moon, nearest the first day of October, 1871.

The *place*, Grasshopper Falls, Kansas.

MISSIONARY COMMITTEE.

On motion, Revs. A. J. Hesson, of Topeka, C. Martin, St. Joseph, and Bro. J. G. Schmucker, of Lawrence, were chosen as the Home Mission Committee, advisory to the Home Mission Committee of the General Synod, for the ensuing synodical year.

The following resolution was then offered and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the President of this Synod be instructed to write to the clerical brethren in Nebraska and Missouri, and invite them to become members of this Synod.

Rev. D. S. Altman, having appeared in our convention was, on motion admitted an advisory member of the same.

THE COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCE DISTRICTS REPORTED.

The committee appointed to divide the Synod of Kansas, and adjacent States, into Conference Districts, would respectfully report:

1st. For the present, the committee would recommend that the Synod be divided into *Two* Conference Districts.

2d. That the pastoral charges of Rockport, Missouri, Monrovia, Grasshopper Falls, Waterville, Abilene, Norway, Atchison, Randolph, in Kansas, be embraced in the *First Conference District.*

3d. That the pastoral charges in St. Louis, Kansas City, and Springfield, Missouri, and Lawrence, Topeka, Ottawa, Kansas and the southeast corner of Kansas, be the *Second Conference District.*

Respectfully submitted,

C. MARTIN,
H. B. BELMER,
V. G. HAAG.

Adopted.

Rev. L. Sternberg, D. D., having arrived, was on motion, admitted an advisory member of this body.

RESOLUTIONS ON TEMPERANCE.

Rev. Wm. H. Steck, offered the following resolutions:

Whereas, Intemperance is one of the chief and greatest evils now cursing our land, and,

Whereas, There are those calling themselves Lutherans throughout the West, who occupy, to say the least, very doubtful ground, on the subject of Temperance, therefore,

Resolved, 1st. That this Synod take the high and only christian position; that of "total abstinence" from the use of all intoxicating drinks as a beverage. Destroy not him with thy meat for whom Christ died. If meat maketh my brother to offend I will not eat meat while the world stands.

Resolved, 2nd. That as christian ministers, we will use every effort to prevent the further spread and increase of this crying evil, and call upon all christians and friends of humanity to unite their efforts with ours to this end.

These resolutions were earnestly discussed, Rev. Dr. C. Martin, L. Sternberg, D. D., Wm. H. Steck, A. J. Hesson, D. Earhart, and others participating.

On motion they were adopted.

The Secretary was instructed to have 300 copies of the *minutes* of *this Convention*, and the *Constitution* of *this Synod*, published and bound in the same pamphlet.

On motion, the distribution of the minutes and constitutions was left with the Secretary.

Resolved.—That the Secretary have 300 copies of blank Parochial reports printed, suitable to correspond with our statistical table, for the use of this Synod.

On motion, the Secretary was instructed to notify Rev. C. F. W. Treptow, to appear before Synod to answer certain charges of refractory conduct toward Synod, and dishonesty.

Synod adjourned.

Prayer by Rev. L. Sternberg, D. D.

SIXTH SESSION.

1½ *o'clock*, P. M.

Synod opened with prayer by Rev. C. Martin. The minutes were read and approved.

PRESIDENT TO SECURE AN ACT OF INCORPORATION.

Resolved.—That the President of this Synod is hereby instructed to procure an Act of Incorporation for this synodical body.

On motion, the Secretary was instructed to procure one dozen Ordination Certificates and one dozen Licensure Certificates.

Revs. C. Martin, S. P. Harrington, and D. Harbaugh, were, on motion, appointed a committee to select a suitable device, and procure a seal, for the use of this Synod.

Rev. J. G. Groenmiller, offered the following resolutions:

Whereas.—A certain *manual* in the German language was given us by the President, for examination, entitled, "*Formal Buch*," compiled and published by Rev. Severinghaus, the worthy editor of the "*Kirchenfreund.*" The first part contains an order of worship, and various forms, as directions for our benevolent societies, the constitution of the General Synod, and a constitution for congregations,

Resolved.—That we regard the work as very useful for our churches, and we would most heartily recommend it to our German congregations.

Resolved.—That the ministers and members of this Synod, who read the "*Lutherishen Kirchenfreund*," heartily endorse the way in which it is edited, and the doctrinal position it occupies, and that we cheerfully recommend it to all our membership who are able to take the same.

The following was offered by Rev. D. Harbaugh, as expressive of the sense of this body.

Resolved.—That in the judgment of this synod, the numerous divisions in our church are very unfortunate, that the hot disputes, as carried on in our church papers are unchristian, productive of much evil, and very detrimental to the interests of our Zion.

On motion, Synod took a recess to give place for preparatory services.

The preparatory services being over, the business of Synod was resumed.

REV. C. F. W. TREPTOW DEPOSED FROM THE MINISTRY.

Whereas.—The moral character of Rev. C. F. W. Treptow, stands impeached before this Synod, and the committee appointed having failed, after repeated efforts, to secure an adjustment of his case, and,

Whereas.—He has refused to appear before the Synod after repeated importunities by the committee, and a direct summons from Synod;

Therefore,

1st. *Resolved.*—That the Rev. C. F. W. Treptow be, and hereby is deposed, from the ministry, and his name be stricken from the roll.

2d. *Resolved.*—That the Evangelical Lutheran church of St. Paul's in the city of Lawrence, Kansas, has the sincere sympathy of this Synod, and request that it will feel at perfect liberty to ask counsel and aid in securing a pastor, and in the prosecution of their church enterprise.

3d. *Resolved.*—That in view of the fact that Rev. C. F. W. Treptow has collected money for the building of the St. Paul's Lutheran church of Lawrence, Kansas, and has not satisfactorily accounted for the same, therefore, the foregoing resolutions shall be published in the church papers, and also in the daily papers of the city of Lawrence.

These resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Resolved.—That Rev. C. Martin be requested to return the thanks of this body to the congregation and citizens of Lawrence, for the hearty welcome and christian hospitality with which they have received and entertained us, during the meetings of this convention.

Adopted.

Synod adjourned to meet at the time and place specified in the resolution, after prayer by Rev. Father Sargent.

MINISTERIUM.

FIRST SESSION.

11 *o'clock* A. M. *Oct.* 6th, 1870.

The Ministerium of the Synod of Kansas and adjacent States met, and was opened with prayer, by Rev. J. G. Groenmiller.

On motion,

A committee to examine applicants for Ordination and License to preach the Gospel, was appointed.

Committee.—Rev. Dr. C. Martin, Rev. David Earhart, Rev. Thomas W. Sargent.

All papers of applicants for Ordination and Licensure, were referred to the above committee, except the papers of Bro. C. Hawkinson, which were, on motion, referred to a special committee.

Committee. Rev. D. Harbaugh, Rev. J. G. Groenmiller, Bro. Wm. H. Steck.

Ministerium adjourned.

Prayer by Rev. D. Earhart.

SECOND SESSION.

8¾ *o'clock*, P. M.

The Ministerium was opened with prayer by Rev. Thomas W. Sargent.

On motion, Rev. D. S. Altman, was permitted to make some statements with regard to the matters of differences between himself and the Iowa Synod.

Suspending the discussion with regard to these differences, the Ministerium adjourned.

Prayer by Rev. D. Harbaugh.

THIRD SESSION.

October 7, 3 *o'clock* P. M.

The Ministerium opened with prayer by Rev. Thomas W. Sargent.

The commitee on examinition of applicants reported.

The committee, to whom the duty of holding a colloquium with applicants for Licensure and Ordination, was referred, would respectfully report,

1st. That they had a very pleasant and satisfactory interview with Licentiates Rev. V. G. Haag, and C. J. Sheleen, and candidate A. G. Nondergren. Two of these brethren are Swedes.

Licentiate, Rev. V. G. Haag, has been engaged in the active duties of the ministry for several years, and at present is laboring among the scattered members of our church in Crawford co., Kansas. He asks to be ordained. Your committee would recommend that brother Haag be ordained next Sabbath evening.

Licentiate, Rev. C. J. Sheleen is located at Topeka, and laboring successfully among the Swedes of that locality. As he is reported to us as an acceptable preacher of the Gospel of Christ. His examination is satisfactory. The committee would recommend that he be ordained, next Sabbath evening.

Candidate, A. G. Nordengren, also sustained a very satisfactory examination, as far as the committee was able to prosecute it, on the doctrines of the *Augsburg Confession*, *Church government* &c. The committee recommend that this brother, receive License to preach the Gospel and perform other ministerial acts for one year.

Respectfully submitted.

C. MARTIN,
D. EARHART,
L. W. SARGENT.

Adopted.

Report of Special committee on the application and papers of Bro. C. Hawkinson.

The documents placed into the hands of your committee are

1st. The constitution adopted by the Sweedish Evangelical Lutheran Church, located at Randolph, Riley Co., Kansas, with a request to be received into connection with this Synod. As they have been organized upon the basis of the General Synod, your committee move that they be received.

2d. Is a report of Rev. Charles Anderson, of Galesburg, Illinois, who by the request of the President of this Synod, made a missionary tour through this State visiting Junction City, Salina, Manhattan, Randolph, Topeka, Osage City, and Lawrence. As the result of this visit, there are now several ministers in our midst preaching to their own countrymen the word of life.

As there were certain rumors afloat prejudicial to the christian character of the Pastor, Rev. C. Hawkinson, a Licentiate of this Synod, Bro. Anderson, by request of the President of Synod, investigated the matter.

From the report of Bro. Anderson, it is the opinion of your committee that Bro. C. Hawkinson is innocent, and therefore should be re-licensed.

3d. Is a document from the members of the church at Randolph stating that Bro. C. Hawkinson, had preached the word to them, administered the Lord's Supper twice, baptised fifteen children and ask Synod to re-license him that he may continue to preach the Gospel in their midst. The paper has one hundred and fifty-four signatures.

Resolved, That this Synod appreciate the labors of Bro. C. Anderson whilst on his mission tour, and that the thanks of this body be returned to him, and his congregation, who assisted us pecuniarily in defraying his expenses.

4th. Is a receipt from Rev. C. Anderson, for $25 paid him as traveling expenses by the President of this Synod, which amount has been credited to the Kansas Synod by E. G. Smyser, Esq., Treasurer of the Board of Home Missions.

Respectfully submitted,

D. HARBAUGH,
WM. H. STECK,
J. G. GROENMILLER.

Adopted.

FOURTH SESSION.

4½ *o'clock* P. M. *October* 8, 1870.

The Ministerium opened with prayer by Rev. Wm. Steck.

The committee to whom the papers of Rev. Albert G. R. Buetow were referred, reported.

Your committee would respectfully report that the papers placed in our hands are

1st. The *ad interim* License of Rev. A. G. R. Buetow, of Fontenelle, Nebraska.

2d. The Parochial report of Bro. Buetow.

3d. A letter. 4th. A German Sermon.

The Parochial report shows that he has been truly faithful and diligent in his work as a Gospel Minister.

The letter which is very long, contains various items.

1st. He deeply regrets that he cannot be present at the meeting of our Synod, assigning a reason, the heavy expenses which such a long trip by Railroad would make, which he, on account of his limited income, would not be able to bear. He

therefore, most respectfully asks this Reverend body, to excuse him for his absence, and wishes most sincerely, that if consistent with the Constitution and wishes, and judgment of Synod, to make such arrangements that his Ordination might be effected.

2d. He also gives us a history of his field of labor which is quite interesting. Your Committee examined the Sermon of Bro. Buetow, and find it to be very good, homoletically, well arranged, fully Evangelical in principle, sound in doctrine, and shows, in the whole, that the author is quite a respectable theological scholar.

Your Committee would offer the following:

1st. *Resolved*, That we, as a Synod, are very much pleased to learn that Bro. A. G. R. Buetow, has labored so faithfully in the Lords Vineyard, and that his labors are blessed with success from our Heavenly Father.

2d. *Resolved.*—That Synod very much regrets his absence, and that he be excused.

3d. *Resolved.*—That the request of Bro. A. G. R. Buetow, to Ordain him at this time is unconstitutional.

4th. *Resolved.*—That this Synod is very much gratified to learn that the field in which Bro. B. labors, is such an interesting one, and that this Synod will do all it can to help him cultivate it.

Your committee recommend that Rev. Albert G. R. Buetow's License be renewed for one year, which will give him all the authority needful to perform all the duties of the Ministerial office

J. G. GROENMILLER,
F. HECKENDORF.

Adopted.

The business of this session being finished, the Ministerium adjourned, with the Benediction by Rev. Thomas W. Sargent.

ORDINATION SERVICE.

According to previous action the Ordination services were held on Sabbath evening, Oct. 9, 1870. Rev. Dr. C. Martin, preached the sermon.

Rev. V. G. Haag, of Girard, Crawford Co., Kansas, and Rev. C. J. Sholeen, of Topeka, Kansas, were solemnly Ordained and set apart by the laying on of hands, to the work of the Gospel Ministry, and Bros. A. G. Nordengren, of Topeka, and C. Hawkinson, of Randolph, Riley Co., were licensed to preach the Gospel for one year.

The Synod having now completed its business, adjourned to meet at Grasshopper Falls, Kansas, on the last Wednesday evening preceeding the full moon nearest the first day of October 1871.

I hereby certify, that the foregoing, to the best of my knowledge, is a correct copy of the proceedings of the Third Annual Convention of the Kansas Synod and Adjacent States.

S. P. HARRINGTON, Secretary.

APPENDIX NO 1.

Religious Services,—Lutheran Church.

Wednesday Evening, October, 1870.

Opening Sermon. Rev. A. J. Hesson, President, from Acts, 12 ch: 24 verse.

Thursday evening. Rev. Wm. H. Steck.

Friday evening. Rev. Thos. W. Sargent.

Saturday afternoon. Preparatory service, Rev. M. G. Boyer.

Saturday evening, Missionary meeting.

Sabbath Morning, Communion service, Rev. S. P: Harrington.

Sabbath evening, Ordination, Rev. Dr. Charles Martin.

U. P. Church, 11 o'clock Rev. D. Earhart.

Presbyterian church, morning, Dr. L. Sternberg.

Methodist Episcopal, evening, Rev. Wm. H. Steck.

Congregational, morning, Rev. D. L. Steck.

Congregational, evening, Rev. D. L. Sternberg, D. D.

Baptist Church, morning, Dr. C. Martin.

APPENDIX NO. 2.

THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

On Saturday evening, October 8th, 1870, the Anniversary of the Home Missionary Society of the Synod of Kansas, and adjacent States, was held. The convention was addressed by Revs. A. J. Hesson, D. Earhart, Dr. C. Martin and Wm. H. Steck.

Rev. H. B. Belmer was made a Life Member of the General Synod's Home Missionary Society, by the following contributions:

Rev. A. J. Hesson	$5 00	
Rev. Charles Martin	5 00	
Rev. S. P. Harrington	5 00	
Rev. Wm. H. Steck	5 00	
Rev. D. Earhart	5 00	$25 00

Mrs. A. C. Belmer, Life Member of the General Synod's Home Missionary Society, by the following contributions:

Rev. Wm. H. Steck	$1 00	
Bro. J. H. Shaffer	1 00	
Mrs. S. Carlson	1 00	
Cash	2 00	
Bro. Samuel Bradford	5 00	
Bro. Chas. Gaumer	1 00	
Miss Alice Schmucker	1 00	
Miss Matilda Shalmar	1 00	
Rev. A. G. Nordengren	2 00	
Bro. John Helwig	1 00	
Bro. O. Carlson	2 00	
Miss M. Shalmar	1 00	
Rev. S. P. Harrington	1 00	
Rev. H. B. Belmer	2 00	
Bro. M. Rosali	1 00	
Bro. S. Shirer	1 00	
Rev. C. J. Sheleen	1 00	$25 00

Rev. Dr. C. Martin was made a Life Member of the Synod of Kansas, and adjacent States, by the following contributions:

Rev. A. J. Hesson	$2 00	
Rev. J. G. Groenmiller	3 00	$5 00

Margaret Bruner was made a Life Member of the Synod of Kansas, and adjacent States, by the following contributions:

Mrs. A. C. Belmer	$1 00	
Bro. L. Eberhart	2 00	
Bro. C. Ladwig	2 00	$5 00

Rev. A. J. Hesson was made a Life Member of the Synod of Kansas, &c., by the following contributions:

Mrs. Martha Schmucker	$3 00	
Mrs. S. Carlson	2 00	$5 00

Mrs. Marth Schmucker was made a Life Member of the Synod of Kansas, &c., by the following contributions:

Rev. A. J. Hesson	$2 00	
Rev. H. B. Belmer	1 00	
Bro. L. Eberhart	1 00	
Rev. Wm. H. Steck	1 00	$5 00

Mrs. Hesson (whomsoever she may be) was made a Life Member of the Synod of Kansas, &c., by the following contributions:

Rev. C. Ladwig	$1 00	
Rev. H. B. Belmer	1 00	
Miss Kate Schmucker	1 00	
Rev. A. G. Nordengren	1 00	
Miss Mariah Schmucker	1 00	$5 00
Cash collection	4 05	
Total amount of contributions for Home Missions...		$79 05

The meeting closed with singing and prayer.

Appendix no. 3.

Synodical Calendar, 1870—1871.

OFFICERS OF SYNOD.

President—Rev. A. J. Hesson, Topeka, Kansas.
Secretary—Rev. S. P. Harrington, Grasshopper Falls, Kas.
Treasurer—Rev. J. G. Groenmiller, Rockport, Mo.

DELEGATES TO GENERAL SYNOD.

CLERICAL.

PRINCIPALS.	ALTERNATES.
Rev. A. J. Hesson,	Rev. M. G. Boyer,
Rev. H. B. Belmer,	Rev. D. Earhart,
Rev. S. P. Harrington.	Rev. Wm. H. Steck.

LAY-DELEGATES.

PRINCIPALS.	ALTERNATES.
Bro. C. R. Colman,	Bro. C. Ladwig,
Bro. J. G. Schmucker,	Bro. A. Erikson,
Bro. G. W. Crotzer.	Bro. John Helwig.

HOME MISSIONARY COMMITTEE.

Rev. A. J. Hesson, Topeka, Kansas; Rev. C. Martin, St. Joseph, Missouri; Bro. J. G. Schmucker, Lawrence, Kansas.

Place of the next meeting of the Synod—Grasshopper Falls, Kansas—on the Wednesday evening before the full moon nearest the first of October, 1871.

PAROCHIAL TABLE.

NAMES OF PASTORS.	No. Churches	No. Preaching Places	Admissions: By Confirmation	By Certificate	By Adult Baptism	By Profession	Removals: By Death	By Letter	Excommunicated	Communicants	Infant Baptisms	Catechumens	S. Schools: S. Schools	S. S. Teachers	S. S. Scholars	Prayer or Weekly Meetings	Contributions: Education	Synodical Fund	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	Local Objects	Gen'l Benevolence	Publication Society	Value of Church Property	Remarks
John G. Ellinger	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	$ 2 00	$ 3	$.....	$.....	$.....	.....	$.....	Superannuated.
David Earhart	1	1	4	...	...	2	2	...	...	28	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	5 00	21	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
David Harbaugh	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	No organization.
F. R. Scherer	1	1	...	10	...	...	...	...	2	24	5	...	1	8	60	1	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
S. P. Harrington	1	2	4	...	3	9	4	...	...	45	4	...	1	10	96	1	...	2 10	10	.....	380	80	.....	700	Prospects encouraging.
J. G. Groenmiller	3	...	9	...	1	...	3	...	...	125	18	9	...	...	...	...	...	5 87	10	25 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
C. F. W. Treptow	1	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	35	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
J. B. Corbett	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	No report
Wm. H. Steck	1	1	1	...	...	15	...	5	...	35	3	8	1	6	60	1	...	5 00	20	5 00	235	.....	.....	9000	
A. J. Hesson	1	1	...	...	2	17	2	2	2	53	5	12	1	13	89	1	...	5 00	43	.....	425	.....	.....	5000	
H. B. Belmer	2	...	7	12	...	.....	1	3	.....	63	8	25	2	14	150	.....	...	3 00	.....	.....	200	.....	.....	4500	
M. G. Boyer, Effingham	1	...	1	5	...	.....	1	.....	.....	25	.....	...	1	7	40	1	...	2 00	.....	7 05	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
M. G. Boyer, Monrovia	1	...	1	2	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	46	2	...	1	15	98	1	...	2 00	.....	6 70	222	.....	.....	1400	
V. G. Haag	2	...	2	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	30	7	...	2	18	90	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
C. J. Sheleen	1	2	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	30	.....	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
C. Hawkinson	2	...	...	...	...	85	1	.....	.....	85	15	...	1	8	60	.....	...	4 30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
A. G. R. Buetow	3	...	...	...	20	.....	8	.....	2	128	19	4	2	11	62	.....	...	4 00	5	6 00	225	.....	.....	1700	
Total	22	10	29	29	26	128	24	10	8	752	104	58	13	110	794	6	...	$43 27	$112	$49 75	$3407	$80	.....	$22300	

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Kansas,

—AND—

ADJACENT STATES.

[Compiled from the Constitution of the East Pennsylvania Synod.]

PREAMBLE.

WHEREAS, The Synod of Kansas, and adjacent States, adopted as its doctrinal basis that of the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, in the United States, receiving and holding with the Evangelical Churches of our Fathers, the word of God as contained in the Canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testiments, as the only infallible rule of faith and practice, and the Augsburg Confession as a correct exhibition of the fundamental doctrines of the divine word, and the faith of our church as founded on that word, and also Luther's Smaller catechism, has adopted the following Chapters as its Constitution.

CHAPTER I.

SECTION I. It was found necessary and profitable in the Primitive Church, to have an occasional meeting of different individual churches, for the purpose of consultation and mutual encouragement, in preserving their purity and promoting their welfare. This Apostolical custom is retained in the Lutheran Church under the names of Conference, Synod and General Synod.

Sec. II. A Synod consists of all the ministers and licensed candidates, and the delegates from the churches within a certain district.

Sec. III. Each pastoral district shall have the right to send one delegate to Synod, who shall have a seat and vote.

Sec. IV. It shall be the duty of the Synod to see that the rules of the government and discipline prescribed in this Constitution are observed by all the congregations and ministers within its bounds, to receive appeals from decisions of church-councils, and of Special Conferences, when regularly brought before them, and review and reverse or confirm the decisions to which they refer; to examine and decide on all charges against ministers and licentiates, that of heterodoxy alone excepted; to form and change ministerial districts; to attend to any business relating to their churches, which is regularly brought before them; to provide supplies for destitute congregations, and to devise and execute all suitable measures for the promotion of piety and the general prosperity of the Church.

Sec. V. To this end the Synod shall have power to cite any church members within its bounds to appear before it; and to endeavor to obtain other witnesses, when the case may require it.

Sec. VI. If any congregation hitherto in connection with the Synod should refuse to observe the resolutions of the Synod, or the provisions of this Constitution, it shall be excluded from connection with the Synod during the time of its refusal; nor can any other Synod, or any Lutheran minister or licentiate, take charge of it without special permission of the President. *Provided*, however, that if the charter of an incorporated congregation be at variance with any articles of this Constitution, said charter shall have precedence of those articles with which it is in conflict.

Sec. VII. Any congregation may become connected with this Synod, if situated within its bounds, by according to the provisions of this Constitution, and making an annual contribution towards defraying the necessary expenses of the Synod. For this purpose an annual collection ought to be held in each congregation.

Sec. VIII. At least one meeting of the Synod shall be held every year, at such time and place as may have been determined.

Sec. IX. A special meeting of Synod may be called whenever requested by one-third of the ordained ministers, at such time and place as the President, or, in his absence, his substitute, shall appoint; at least four weeks' notice being given of said meeting in some paper of the Church.

Sec. X. No minister or licentiate shall be absent from the meeting of the Synod without the most urgent necessity. In case of his absence, he shall, if possible, send to the Synod a written apology for his absence. Voluntary ministeral engagements shall not be regarded as a sufficient excuse. Any minister or licentiate violating the provisions of this section, shall be called to account by the President at the next meeting. And each pastrol district is affectionately urged to maintain its representation in Synod.

Sec. XI. These written apologies, as well as all other letters and papers intended for the Synod or Ministerium, ought to be addressed to the President.

Sec. XII. The minister of the place in which the Synod is held, with the church-council, shall provide for the entertainment of the ministers, candidates and lay-delegates by Christian friends.

Sec. XIII. All the members of the Synod shall assemble on the evening of the day appointed.

Sec. XIV. Divine worship shall be celebrated, during the meetings of the Synod, as often as may be convenient and consistent with the business of the Synod.

Sec. XV. Ministers in good standing in other Synods, or in any sister denominations, who may happen to be present, or who appear as delegates from other ecclesiastical bodies, may be received as advisory members, but cannot vote in any decisions of the Synod.

CHAPTER II.

Officers of the Synod.

Section I. The officers of the Synod shall be a President, Secretary, and Treasurer, who are also the officers of the Ministerium.

Sec. II. All the officers are annually chosen by ballot, from among the *ordained* ministers regularly belonging ot the Synod, by a majority of the *whole* of the votes of the ministers, licentiates, and lay-delegates present. The same persons shall not be eligible for more than three successive years.

President.

Sec. III. The President shall deliver a synodical discourse at the meeting of every Synod; and he shall, in connection with the pastor of the place, appoint the other individuals who are to preach during the session.

Sec. IV. He shall, at the beginning of every Synod, make a written report of all the official business transacted, and letters received by him since the last meeting, and of all the important events which have occurred relating to his Synod, and may recommend for their consideration any measures which he may deem necessary or calculated to promote the cause of God. This report shall be laid on the table, and dealt with as with all other papers coming before the body.

Sec. V. He presides at all the meetings of the Synod and Ministerium.

Sec. VI. The President has a right to take part in the discussions as well as any other member. When the house is equally divided on any question, he has the casting vote.

In all other cases he has no suffrage, except when an election is made by ballot, and then he has not the casting vote.

Sec. VII. The President shall preserve order, not suffer more than one member to speak at a time, secure to each person liberty to speak without interruption from others, and shall prevent a speaker from deviating from the subject before the house.

Sec. VIII. The President shall take care that each subject be duly considered before a decision be made. He shall distinctly rehearse each motion when no one has any further observations to offer, and take the votes of the house on the same.

Sec. IX. When the votes are called for, they are to be given simply by yea and nay, and no further observations are then admissible.

Sec. X. The President has the appointment of all committees which are not to be elected by ballot or otherwise.

Sec. XI. It is an important part of his duty to give counsel to every member of the Synod when he deems it expedient, and particularly to admonish and advise every erring brother. If accusation has been lodged against any member of this body, according to Ch. III, Sec. V., of the Formula of Church Government, or if he has reason to believe that any minister or licentiate is living in any material violation of the rules of this Synod, it shall be his duty to call upon the individual to relieve his character from said imputation, before the Synod or Ministerium.

Sec. XII. Should the President remove from the limits of the Synod, or depart this life, then the Secretary shall succeed him, and discharge the duties of the President, until the next Synod, and in case of the removal or death of both these, the oldest member of the Ministerium shall act as President.

Secretary.

Sec. III. The Secretary shall keep a faithful and accurate account of all the proceedings of the Synod and Ministerium;

carefully preserve all the papers, the seal, &c., of the Synod subject to their direction, and shall do all the official writing of the Synod not otherwise provided for.

Sec. XIV. He shall give notice (either by circular or in the public papers) to each minister or licentiate belonging to the Synod, of the time and place of the synodical meeting, at least six weeks previous to the time appointed.

Sec. XV. He is to keep a register of the names of all the ministers and licensed candidates, arranged according to their age in office, and also of the congregations, whether vacant or not, connected with the Synod.

Sec. XVI. If the accumulation of business should render it necessary, the President may appoint an assistant Secretary, whose office shall expire at the close of the meeting of the Synod.

Sec. XVII. If in the recess of the Synod, the Secretary should remove into the bounds of another Synod, or should depart this life, the President shall require the archives, the seal, and all other property of the Synod to be delivered to him, and shall retain the charge of them until the next session of the Synod, when he shall appoint a Secretary *pro tem.*

Sec. XVIII. Unless the archieves are otherwise disposed of by the Synod, they shall be in the charge and custody of the Secretary. Any minister or delegate of a congregation connected with the Synod shall have access to them; but no part of them shall be allowed to be taken away or destroyed.

Treasurer.

Sec. XIX. The Treasurer shall take charge of all the moneys belonging to the Synod, and shall keep them subject to its order. He shall keep and present at each annual meeting a detailed and faithful account of the state of the treasury.

Sec. XX. Should the Treasurer, during the recess of the Synod, remove out of the bounds of the Synod, or be removed by death, the President shall have all the moneys,

certificates, bonds and documents belonging to the Synod, deliverod into his hands, and shall have charge of them until tho next Synodical session.

CHAPTER III.

Other Members of the Synod.

SECTION I. It is the duty of every ordained minister, licentiate and lay-delegate of this Synod, not only to observe the provisions of this Constitution himself, but also, as far as is in his power, see that it is obeyed by all connected with it.

Ordained Ministers and Licentiates or Candidates.

SEC. II. It is rocommended to every ordained minister and licentiate, to aid in circulating, among the members of his charge, the books proposed by the Synod and General Synod for use.

SEC. III. No minister or licentiate shall interfere with the congregations of another, by preaching or performing other ministerial duties in them, except by his request or consent, nor foster any disaffection.

SEC. IV. Any minister or licentiate in good standing, who removes from the bounds of this Synod into those of another, whose Christian character is recognized by this Synod, and which shall be designated in the application, shall, on application to the President, receive a certificate under his signature, of his honorable dismission; and such a certificate shall be required by the Synod when a member of another Synod applies for admission into this; but every minister so dismissed shall be held responsible to this body until formally connected with the body to which he is dismissed.

SEC. V. Should any minister in connection with this body desire to demit or withdraw from the ministeral office, his case shall be referred to Synod, and if in the view of Synod the reasons for demanding such dismissal are valid and satisfactory, he shall be permitted to withdraw, and shall thenceforward be divested of all ministerial character, and shall

not again officiate as a minister in our connection, unless re-ordained or licensed by some competent body.

Sec. VI. Every ordained minister has the right to leave his charge and remove to another whenever he believes it his duty to do so; yet he must give the President timely notice of his intended removal.

Sec. VII. A licensed candidate shall have liberty to visit vacant congregations, either upon receiving an invitation from them, or upon the advice of the Synod or President.

Sec. VIII. After a licentiate has a stated charge, he shall be restricted to it, and shall not resign it without the consent of the Ministerium, or, in its recess, of the President.

Sec. IX. A licentiate has power to perform all the ministerial functions during the time specified in his license.

Sec. X. In addition to the obligations of ministers specified in Ch. III. Sec. 1, of the Formula of Church Government, it is the duty of the licentiates particularly to devote all their leisure time to their personal improvement in knowledge and grace, to receive counsel from the President, and to apply to him for advice in cases of difficulty.

Sec. XI. Every licentiate must keep a general journal of his ministerial acts, which, with a few sermons of his own composition, he must deliver, or send annually for the inspection of the Ministerium.

Lay Delegates.

Sec. XII. Each lay-delegate, entitled to a seat by this Constitution, shall have equal rights with the ministers in all business belonging to the Synod; that is, may take part in the debates, offer resolutions and vote on all Synodical questions.

CHAPTER IV.

Order of Business.

Section I. At the time appointed for the meeting, the members present shall assemble, and if four ordained ministers and two lay-delegates be present, they shall constitute a quorum.

Sec. II. Every session of the Synod and Ministerium shall be opened and closed with prayer.

Sec. III. After prayer the Secretary shall call the names of all the ordained ministers and licentiates belonging to the Synod, and note the absentees.

Sec. IV. The lay-delegates shall then exhibit the certificates of their appointment, and their names be registered by the Secretary as members of the Synod.

Sec. V. The pastoral districts from which no minister appears shall then be called, and delegates furnishing proper credentials shall take their seats.

Sec. VI. Ministers who have removed into the bounds of Synod, and presenting a regular dismissal to it from other Lutheran Synods, shall then be admitted, if no objection is raised against them; but if objection is made, their case shall be deferred for subsequent action.

Sec. VII. The President shall make his report (Chap. II. § 14,) as the last official act of his office, and then inform the members that

Sec. VIII. The election of officers for the ensuing year is next to be attended to.

Sec. IX. Admission of delegates or ministers from other ecclesiastical bodies: according to Chap. I. § 14.

Sec. X. The minutes of the last Synod to be read, or referred to a committee.

Sec. XI. All papers intended for the Synod or Ministerium to be handed in, and an opportunity given for verbal notice of any important business intended to be brought before the Synod.

Sec. XII. The Secretary shall then number the papers as arranged by the President, after which they shall be taken up and discussed before the whole house in numerical order, or be first referred to committees, as the house may direct. The reports of committees may be heard and acted on at any time, and the intervals filled up by the succeeding items.

Sec. XIII. Each minister shall be called on by the Secretary for the record of persons baptized and confirmed, as well as of the regular communing members belonging to his churches, as also of the number of schools, &c., according to schedule adopted by this Synod, and report the state of religion in his charge.

Sec. XIV. The Treasurer's account shall be heard.

Sec. XV. The subject of vacant congregations to be inquired into, and provision made for them.

Sec. XVI. Election of delegates to the General Synod, or to other ecclesiastical bodies.

Sec. XVII. Choice of the time and place for the next meeting of the Synod.

Sec. XVIII. Promiscuous business.

Sec. XIX. Dissolution of the Synod, and the annunciation of the time of the ministerial session.

Sec. XX. Should the President or Secretary be absent at the proper time for opening a session, the members present may elect another *pro tempore*.

CHAPTER V.

Process against a Minister.

Section I. As the honor and success of the Gospel depend very much on the character of its ministers, this Synod shall guard with the utmost care and impartiality the conduct of its members.

Sec. II. All Christians should be very cautious in giving credit or circulation to an ill report of any man, and especially of a minister of the Gospel; if any man knows a minister to be guilty of a fault, he should warn him in private. If this proves fruitless, he should apply to the church-council, who shall proceed as specified in Chap. III. § 5 of the Formula of Church Government.

Sec. III. If accusation be thus lodged with the President within four months of the time of the next Synodical meeting, he shall defer the matter to said meeting; yet if the

charge be one of drunkenness, lewdness, circulating fundamental errors in doctrine, or a higher crime, he shall immediately direct the accused to suspend all his ministerial duties until his case is decided. If such accusation is lodged with the President at an earlier date, he shall, if the charge be one of drunkenness, lewdness, circulating fundamental errors in doctrine, or a higher crime, immediately give notice to all the members of the Conference district to which the accused belongs, to meet without delay at a suitable place, and institute a formal investigation of the case, according to the principles of this Constitution. The Chairman of said Conference district shall immediately fix the time and place of the meeting, and give at least fifteen days' notice of the same to each minister in the district, and also to the parties concerned.

SEC. IV. If the Synod is not divided into Conference districts, the President shall appoint a committee of three ordained ministers, fix the time and place of their meeting, and give all the notices as above required of the Chairman of the Conference district.

SEC. V. Any three members of the Conference, or of the committee above named, shall have power to proceed and hold a fair and impartial investigation of the case, and to take all such measures as may be just and necessary to determine the guilt or innocence of the accused.

SEC. VI. If the accused confess, and the matter be base and flagitious, such as drunkenness, lewdness, circulating fundamental errors in doctrine, or a higher crime, however penitent he may be, he must immediately be suspended from the exercise of his office; and, if thought expedient, a time appointed for him publicly to confess to the congregation and the world, his guilt and penitence.

SEC. VII. If a minister, accused of atrocious crimes, being duly notified, refuses to attend the investigation, he shall still be immediately suspended from office.

Sec. VIII. If the accused deny the charge, and yet on examination of the evidence, is found guilty, the Conference or committee shall nevertheless proceed to pass sentence on him, suspending him from his ministry.

Sec. IX. The highest punishment which can be inflicted by a Special Conference or committee appointed as above specified, is suspension from clerical functions; and this sentence is to be reported to the next meeting of the Synod, and remains in force until reversed by the Synod or Ministerium, as the case may be.

Sec. X. Any minister intending to appeal from the decision of such Conference or committee, shall give notice of it to his accusers within three weeks of the time when the decision was made, that both parties may be prepared for a new trial.

Sec. XI. Special Conferences not specially convened for the purpose may attend to any charge of importance against a minister within their bounds, if all the parties concerned are prepared and willing to proceed, subject, however, to the revision of the Synod.

Sec. XII. If, at any time, accusation be lodged with the President, according to Ch. III. § 5 of the Formula of Government, for a less crime than those above specified, § 3, he shall take no other steps in the case than to write a letter to the accused and accusers, exhorting them to mutual forbearance, and referring them to the next Synod.

Sec. XIII. If accusation against a minister be made immediately to the Synod, and the Synod believe themselves in possession of all the evidence necessary to a just decision, the case may be immediately examined, and sentence passed, whether the accused be present or not. But if the necessary evidence be not before them, and the crime be such as is specified in § 3, they shall appoint a meeting of the Conference to which the accused belongs, or, if there be no Conference district, of a committee, who shall proceed as above specified.

Sec. XIV. If a minister be found guilty of drunkenness, fundamental heresy, lewdness, or higher crimes, his sentence of suspension shall not be removed until after some time of penitent, humble, and edifying conduct. And he cannot be restored by any other judicatory than the Synod, or, if his case was one of fundamental heresy, by the Ministerium.

Sec. XV. If the common report of a minister's guilt of any of the charges above specified, be such as seriously to injure the cause of religion, and his own churches do not proceed against him, it shall be the duty of any other ministers or layman, having obtained two other signatures of credible men, to report the case to the President.

CHAPTER VI.

Vacant Congregations.

Section I. It shall be the duty of Synod to pay special attention to the wants of vacant congregations, and to assist in furnishing them with pastors or stated supplies, as far as practicable.

Sec. II. Vacant congregations which cannot be immediately supplied with a minister, are advised to assemble on the Lord's day, to select some member of the church, of suitable capacities and character, to conduct the exercises, and engage in the worship of God, as recommended in Ch. VII. § 1 of the Formula of Church Government.

Sec. III. It is also recommended that at these meetings a portion of the Scriptures, of the prayers contained in the Liturgy, or some select sermon, such as are approved by the President of the Synod, be read.

CHAPTER VII.

Of Missions.

Section I. As the blessed Saviour left to his followers the command, "Go ye and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you," the Synod shall regard

it as a sacred duty to adopt, from time to time, such measures as it may deem best calculated to execute this solemn injunction.

CHAPTER VIII.

Election of Delegates.

SECTION I. The election of delegates to the General Synod, or to any other body, shall be always by ballot.

CHAPTER IX.

Special Conferences.

SECTION I. It is earnestly recommended that the Synod meet for Conference two times in the Synodical year.

SEC. II. Conference ought to last two days; and the chief business to be performed is to awaken and convert sinners, and to edify believers by close practical preaching of the Gospel.

SEC. III. The state of religion in the churches of the district ought to be inquired into, and at least an hour spent by the Conference alone in conversation on the subjects relating to pastoral experience.

SEC. IV. The Conference ought to be held alternately in some congregation of each minister and licentiate belonging to the district.

SEC. V. The Conference may examine into any business of congregations which is regularly referred to it, and give its advice; but shall, under no pretext whatever, perform any business connected with the licensure or ordination of candidates for the ministry.

SEC. VI. Lay-delegates may also be sent to the Conference under the same regulations as to the Synod.

CHAPTER X.

Ministerial Sessions.

SECTION I. The clergy shall then hold a meeting consisting exclusively of Scripture elders; that is, preachers* or bishops, for the purpose of attending to those duties which

* Acts xx. 17, 28.

Christ and his apostles enjoined upon them alone, viz.: Examination, Licensure, and Ordination of candidates for the ministry. This meeting is called the Ministerium or Presbytery,† by which in Scripture is meant ministers alone.

Sec. II. Licensed candidates may be present at the ministerial meeting, unless requested to withdraw, and may take part in the discussions, but have no vote.

Sec. III. The Ministerium shall also be the proper body, by whom all charges of heresy against a minister are to be examined and decided; as also all appeals from the decision of a church-council on a charge of heresy against a layman, or from the decision of a Conference on a similar charge against a minister.

Sec. IV. When ordained ministers of other religious denominations make application for admission into connection with the Synod, the Ministerium shall be the body to decide on the case.

Sec. V. A majority of two-thirds of the ordained ministers of the Synod shall be required, either for the licensure of an applicant as well as the renewal of his license, or the ordination of a licensed candidate, or the admission of an ordained minister of another denomination.

Sec. VI. No minister or licentiate, coming from a foreign country, shall be received as a member of this Synod, until after a colloquium held with the Ministerium, or a committee appointed by the President. But if an ordained minister comes well recommended for piety and learning by a consistorium, or a number of individuals, known to the Ministerium as orthodox and evangelical; and if the Ministerium believe that they can safely confide in the testimonials, they may receive him for twelve months, after which the vote for his permanent reception as a regular member shall be taken, and the case decided according to § 5.

Sec. VII. All business not specifically entrusted to the Ministerium in this Constitution, shall belong to the Synod.

† I Tim. iv. 14.

Sec. VIII. The order of business in the Ministerium may be as follows:

1. After the session has been opened with prayer, the President shall communicate any business which he may have to report or propose.

2. The licentiates shall hand in their licenses, sermons and journals, which ought, if possible, to be read by the licentiates before the whole body. If want of time render this inconvenient, committees may be appointed to examine and report on them.

3. Applicants for licensure are examined.

4. After the examination of applicants, and of the sermons and journals of licentiates, the applicants and licentiates may be desired to withdraw, and the question of their licensure and renewal of license or ordination be discussed and decided.

5. Promiscuous matters relative to ministerial business may then be attended to.

6. Conversation on pastoral experience.

7. The session closed.

CHAPTER XI.

Examination and Licensure of Candidates.

Section I. The examination shall be conducted by an examining committee of two or more ordained ministers, appointed for the purpose, at the meeting of the previous year, or by a committee appointed at the time. As these examinations may be highly interesting and useful to the whole Ministerium, they may be performed before the whole body.

Sec. II. After the examination by the committee is ended, every member of the Ministerium has the right to ask the applicant any additional questions.

Sec. III. The examination shall embrace at least the following subjects, viz.: Personal Piety, and the motives of the applicant for seeking the holy office, the Greek and Hebrew Scriptures, the Evidences of Christianity, Natural and

Revealed Theology, Church History, Pastoral Theology, the rules of Sermonizing, and Church Government.

Sec. IV. No Ministerium shall, in any case whatever, license an individual whom they do not believe to be hopefully pious. Nor shall any applicant, extraordinary cases excepted, be licensed, whom the Ministerium do not find possessed of a competent acquaintance with the subjects named in § 3, the Hebrew language alone excepted.

Sec. V. The *ceremony of licensure* shall be performed according to the Liturgy adopted by this Synod.

Sec. VI. All licenses shall extend to the time of the next annual meeting of the Ministerium, and shall be renewed as a matter of course, whether the licentiate be present or not, unless satisfactory reasons are known to the Ministerium, which render a renewal inexpedient. And if for any reason, no meeting be held at the appointed time, the licenses granted by said Ministerium shall remain in force until revoked at a subsequent meeting.

Sec. VII. The President shall have power to grant *ad interim* license, with the consent of three ordained ministers of this Synod.

Sec. VIII. If a licentiate, after some time of probation, does, in the judgment of the Ministerium, prove himself unqualified for the duties of the ministry, his license shall be withdrawn.

CHAPTER XII.

Ordination.

Section I. Whenever the Ministerium has decided that an individual shall be ordained, the ceremony may be performed, either at the time by the assembled Ministerium, or if preferred, in the church by which he has been called, by the Special Conference, or by a committee appointed for the purpose by the President.

Sec. II. The ceremony of ordination shall be performed according to the Liturgy adopted by this Synod.

CHAPTER XIII.

Installation.

SECTION I. When a minister is ordained in his own church, he should be immediately installed, as a part of the same service, by answering with the congregation to the usual questions.

SEC. II. If a minister already ordained is to be installed, the ceremony shall be preceded by a sermon on the relation between a minister and the people of his charge, or on some other suitable subject, by a person previously appointed.

SEC. III. The minister shall then be formally installed, according to the Liturgy adopted by the Synod; after which a charge may be delivered, by a minister previously appointed, to the pastor and his people on their respective duties, and the whole to be closed with the benediction.

CHAPTER XIV.

SECTION I. This Constitution shall be subject to such alterations and amendments as two-thirds of the whole Synod may, from time to time, think proper to make, provided notice has been given at a regular session, one year previous.